

## BIOGRAPHY OF BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES M. THOMPSON, USA

Brigadier General James M. Thompson, USA, was appointed Deputy Director for Estimates, Defense Intelligence Agency, on 30 September 1974. He is the fourth officer to head this directorate since it was established in November 1970.

Born in Boise, Idaho, on 6 November 1927, General Thompson graduated from the United States Military Academy on 2 June 1950. Following graduation, General Thompson was selected as a Rhodes Scholar to attend Oxford University in England, where he received an MA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE). He has attended the following military schools: the US Army Engineer School; the US Army Command and General Staff College; and the US Army War College.

General Thompson was promoted to First Lieutenant on 12 July 1951, to Captain on 15 September 1954 and to Major on 3 October 1960. He became a Lieutenant Colonel on 12 May 1964 and was promoted to Colonel on 18 November 1968. On 1 September 1974 he assumed the rank of Brigadier General.

During the past ten years General Thompson has served in a variety of troop and staff assignments, primarily in the broad area of international plans and policy. After a three-year tour with the MAAG in Bonn, Germany, as Joint Plans Officer, he commanded the 23d Engineer Battalion, 3d Armored Division in Hanau, Germany, from June 1965 to August 1966. Following a year on the Army Staff in the International Policy Division, ODCSOPS, he attended the Army War College (1967-68). Assigned to Vietnam, he served briefly with the Province Advisory Team in Long An prior to joining the office of the Deputy COMUSMACV for CORDS (Ambassador Colby) as an executive officer (July 1968-June 1969). He was transferred from Vietnam to Frankfurt, Germany, where he served from July 1969-September 1971 as the Deputy Corps Engineer, V Corps. In September 1971, he was designated by the Chief of Staff, US Army as the Army Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York. Subsequently, he commanded the 36th Engineer Group at Fort Benning, Georgia, from July 1972 to January 1974. In February 1974, he became Chief, Strategic Plans and Policy Division, ODCSOPS, DA. Following his promotion to Brigadier General, he was nominated for appointment as the Deputy Director for Estimates, Defense Intelligence Agency.

General Thompson's military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Services Commendation Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

General Thompson is married to the former Karin Arvis of Santa Barbara, California. General Thompson has two children, Celia - 19 and Christopher - 17 away at school. They have one daughter, Conny - 14, living at home.

As of 30 September 1974

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

1. NAME: Brigadier General James M. Thompson, CE, 519-16-9499
2. CURRENT ASSIGNMENT: Deputy Director for Estimates,  
Defense Intelligence Agency, 30 Sep 74
3. ENTERED ON ACTIVE DUTY: 2 June 1950
4. PAST ASSIGNMENTS:

Commander	12th Engr Bn, 8th Inf Div, Fort Carson	Jan 55 - Jul 55
Engr Advisor	FTT #5 Iran	Jul 56 - Jun 57
Asst/Assoc Professor	Dept of Social Sciences, USMA West Point	Oct 57 - Jul 61
Joint Plans Officer	MAAG-Bonn American Embassy, Germany	Oct 62 - Jun 65
Commander	23rd Engr Bn, 3d AD, Germany	Jun 65 - Aug 66
Staff Officer	Int Policy Div, ODCSOPS, DA	Sep 66 - Jul 67
Executive Officer	Dept COMUSMACV-CORDS (AMB Colby) Vietnam	Jul 68 - Jun 69
Deputy Corps Engr	HQ V Corps, Germany	Jul 69 - Sep 71
Army Fellow	Council on Foreign Relations New York	Sep 71 - Jun 72
Commander	36th Engr Gp, Ft. Benning, Ga.	Jul 72 - Jan 74
Division Chief	Strategic Plans & Policy, ODCSOPS, HQDA	Jan 74 - Sep 74

5. PERSONAL DATA: Born 6 November 1927, Boise, Idaho

Wife's Name: Karin: Children & Age -  
Dau - Celia - 19; Son - Christopher - 17;  
Dau - Conny - 14.

6. EDUCATION:

USMA, West Point (BS)	1950	USACGSC	1961 - 1962
Oxford University (MA)	1954	Army War College	1967 - 1968
Engr Off Adv Crse, USAES	1955-1956		

7. DECORATIONS: Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal,  
Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army  
Commendation Medal

8. DATE OF RANK: Temp: BG, 9 Aug 1974; Perm: LTC, 2 Jun 71